

Message Text

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PM/ISP:LBROWN ACDA/IR:PSEMLER

EUR/WE:RVINE

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

EUR/RPM:EJSTREATOR

JS/J-5:COL FYE (INFO)

MBFR:COL MICHAEL

----- 114879

O R 212249Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

USCINCEUR

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CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 134159

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: JUNE 24 DISCUSSION OF NETHERLANDS DRAFT
DEFENSE PLAN

REF: A. USNATO 3492; B. USNATO 3496

1. MISSION SHOULD SUPPORT LUNS PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE
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THE VIEWS OF THE DPC ON THE PROPOSED FUTURE NETHERLANDS

FORCE STRUCTURE TO THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT.

2. A. PO COULD BE IMPROVED BY ADDING TO PARA 6 SHORT COMMENT ALONG THE LINES OF QUOTE SUCH REDUCTIONS WILL MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR OTHER ALLIES TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THEIR FORCES UNQUOTE.

B. IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE IN THE PO A RECOGNITION OF THE POINT MADE BY THE NETHERLANDS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED IF MBFR AGREEMENT IS NOT OBTAINED. WE MIGHT WANT TO REMIND DUTCH THAT EVEN WITH MBFR WE WOULD WANT THE POST MBFR POSTURE TO BE SUBJECT TO NATO CONSULTATION TO ASSURE BEST OVERALL NATO BALANCE. WE LEAVE THIS POINT TO MISSION DISCRETION.

C. PARA 4 OF THE PO WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE IF REWORDED AS "THE COMMITTEE CONCLUDED THAT THE OVERALL REDUCTIONS,

BEGIN UNDERLINE PARTICULARLY IN THE GROUND FORCES, END UNDERLINE WERE OF" (1) RATIONALE FOR THIS CHANGE IS THAT UNDER THE DRAFT DUTCH PLAN THE NAVY WOULD RETAIN ITS FORCE STRUCTURE AND BE SIGNIFICANTLY MODERNIZED. THE AIR FORCE WOULD MAINTAIN ITS NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT SQUADRONS, REPLACE ALL F-104'S, BUT TAKE CUTS IN SAM SQUADRONS. THE ARMY WOULD SUFFER A 40 PERCENT CUT IN COMBAT BATTALIONS AND, AS THE DUTCH ACKNOWLEDGE, WOULD HAVE TO REDUCE ITS MISSION IN THE NATO DEFENSE PLAN. KISSINGER

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